

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00

NSC-05 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

OIC-02 /060 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3202

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 02452

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR

SUBJECT: NATO SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE: TIMING OF RELEASE

REF: (A) STATE 93560, (B) USNATO 2346

1. DURING THE APRIL 27 NAC DISCUSSION OF THE SUMMIT AGENDA (REFTELS), SYG LUNS NOTED THAT THE COMMUNIQUE WAS LISTED AS THE FINAL ITEM ON THE AGENDA. HE SUGGESTED THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO AGREE ON THE TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY BEFORE MAY 10 AND CERTAINLY BEFORE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT LEAVE LONDON. HE SUGGESTED ALSO THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS APPROVE THE COMMUNIQUE AS THE LAST ITEM OF BUSINESS ON MAY 11, AND THAT THE COMMUNIQUE BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC ON CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING ON MAY 11.

2. THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS TO LUNS' PROPOSALS ON THIS POINT. HOWEVER, IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, THE CHARGE RESERVED THE US POSITION.

3. COMMENT: DEFERRING RELEASE OF THE COMMUNIQUE UNTIL MAY 11 WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL
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ATTENTION ON THE RESULTS OF THE NATO SUMMIT. MOREOVER, IF THE PRESIDENT WERE TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE MAY 10 GATHERING (SEE SEPTTEL), THE AVAILABILITY OF THE COMMUNIQUE WOULD ASSIST THE PRESS IN FOCUSING QUESTIONS AND ALLOW THE PRESIDENT TO SPEAK TO THE RECORDED RESULTS OF THE HEADS-OF-STATE AND GOVERNMENT MEETING. ON THE OTHER HAND, ISSUING THE COMMUNIQUE ON MAY 10 WOULD HAVE

THE POSSIBLE DISADVANTAGE OF TENDING TO DIMINISH THE
IMPORTANCE ACCORDED TO THE WORK OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS
ON MAY 11, WHEN THEY WILL BE FOCUSING PRIMARILY ON CSCE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE, IF POSSIBLE BY APRIL 29.
STREATOR

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NNN

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